

IMPORTANT CONFERENCE TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY

Virginia's Governor, Chamber of Commerce and Other Representatives Getting Together.

WANT SETTLERS AND FARMERS

Southern Settlement and Development Organization and Its Work. Ready to Help Rural Parts and Build Up the Commonwealth.

The conference to be held in this city next Wednesday, which has been referred to, promises to be one of the most important meetings yet held for the advancement of Virginia's interest along agricultural lines. The Chamber of Commerce, which takes great interest in the good work of the Southern Settlement and Development Organization, has sent out, through President Reed, invitations to leading men throughout the State to attend this conference, and numbers from all parts of the Commonwealth have signified their acceptance of the invitation. Governor Stuart is acting hand in hand with President Reed, and he, too, has sent out special invitations to several hundred well-known Virginians, and there can be no doubt that the conference will be largely attended by representative men. Representatives of the Southern Settlement and Development Organization will be here to confer with these Virginians and fully explain the aims and objects of the organization.

The real object of the meeting is to consider the best ways and means to bring more settlers to Virginia to occupy and cultivate the idle acres. That the Southern Settlement and Development Organization, which is not a real estate concern and a speculative combination, but an institution that is doing it free of cost to those most to be benefited by its work, is in a position to help old Virginia along the lines suggested, there is no longer a lingering doubt.

EVERYBODY GETTING TOGETHER FOR THE GENERAL GOOD

At this conference the representative Virginians, those who know the lay of the territory, its needs, the agricultural advantages of the different sections and value of the lands therein, will be brought into close contact and a most constructive management of the settlement organization, and with the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, both of which want to do, and do, all in their power to advance the cause of agriculture in Virginia by bringing more people here to cultivate the lands, etc. These representatives will also be brought in conference with the State and National Agricultural Departments, and with the Governor, and they, too, are hand in hand and heart to heart in the good work. That all of these agencies may be brought together and decide upon the best and quickest means to bring to pass the good things they all have at heart is then the object of the conference.

There will be two meetings on Wednesday, held in the auditorium of the Jefferson Hotel, the first beginning at 12 o'clock and the second at 8 P. M. There will be no formal address, but short heart-to-heart talks, and formal and informal conferences.

T. M. Carrington, a member of the executive committee of the Southern Settlement and Development Organization, ex-president of the Chamber of Commerce, and just now giving his time and thought to this forthcoming conference, in a short talk with the industrial editor, said: "This Southern Settlement and Development Organization is now in a position to be of the greatest benefit to the South, and especially Virginia. In this State are so many unutilized lands, and should be, and can be, taken in, not only by new farmers, but by home-makers. Nowhere on the face of the earth can there be brought forth such variety of agricultural products. Especially is this true of the southern, eastern and Piedmont sections of Virginia. Nowhere are such inducements offered to the up-to-date farmer to become absolutely independent while living on the fat of the land. Then, too, every day in the year when it is not raining some kind of work can be done on the Virginia farm, and the long-season advantage, as compared with the short seasons of the North and Northwest, should be a great inducement to settlers and immigrants, and that is necessary to get before them the information that is so familiar to you and I."

TO LET VIRGINIA'S ADVANTAGES BE KNOWN TO THE WORLD

"Now that is just what the Southern Settlement and Development Organization proposes to do, and that is what the Chamber of Commerce, Governor Stuart and the State Agricultural Department propose to help that organization to do. We want to advertise Virginia's advantages, and do it in a way that will tell and that will pay, by bringing the desirable settlers here. We need to advertise in an intelligent way what each section of the State has to offer in the way of opportunities to the farmer, and be in a position to adjust each new comer to the farming conditions that may best suit his particular wants."

"A large majority of the newcomers to Virginia within the past decade have done well, and the increase in the value of our lands has been wonderful, and yet half the good work has

Their Country May Become Involved in War



The Royal Family of Greece

Here is an unusual picture of the King of Greece and his family, unusual because it was taken without any pomp or ceremony. It shows the Greek royal family as it is in civil costume. Greece may become involved in the war, even though the government is steadfastly opposing such action. Queen Sophie is a sister of the Kaiser, and it is said that she has promised to leave the country, should Greece and the allies. The picture shows, from left to right: Prince Paulos, Queen Sophie, Prince Alex, Princess Irene, King Constantine and the Crown Prince Georgios. The King has two other daughters—Princess Helene and Princess Catherine.

not been done in the matter of bringing in more. With effective publicity given to what we have to offer the immigrant, and the thousands who are dissatisfied with the short seasons and the other drawbacks of the far North and Northwest, and with the real estate agents intelligently and honestly handling their end of the problem, every seeker after a good farm and a country home can be made satisfied in Virginia, and there is nothing that will contribute so much to the upbuilding of the material interest of the State as the settlement of agricultural districts with the right kind of farmers.

"The farmers of to-day have every opportunity of getting the full benefit of the State and national agricultural departments, and every facility is offered them to obtain bulletins, pamphlets, etc., touching on every phase of production. The purpose of the Southern Settlement and Development Organization is not only to bring settlers in touch with the thousands of these representations, but to co-ordinate in some practical way with the various channels of information through which the various agencies gather facts and then get these facts into the hands of the farmer, and to suggest practical methods of making use of the information gained. The railroads are fully supporting this organization as well as their industrial products. Especially is this true of the southern, eastern and Piedmont sections of Virginia. Nowhere are such inducements offered to the up-to-date farmer to become absolutely independent while living on the fat of the land. Then, too, every day in the year when it is not raining some kind of work can be done on the Virginia farm, and the long-season advantage, as compared with the short seasons of the North and Northwest, should be a great inducement to settlers and immigrants, and that is necessary to get before them the information that is so familiar to you and I."

Mr. Carrington expects great good will result from this week's conference. Figures are supposed to be dry read, but some that may be brought to the attention of the conference are of absorbing interest, and should be considered by every Virginian. The facts below are condensed from the official reports of the United States Census Bureau. Read them.

SOME COLD FIGURES WORTHY OF MUCH STUDY

The total population of the State of Virginia is 2,961,612, an increase in ten years of 11.2 per cent. (Population, 1850, 2,652,900; rural population, 1,555,933; rural increase, 5.7 per cent. The land area of the State is 29,747,684 acres. The amount of land in farms is 9,476,058 acres, showing a decrease in ten years of 2.1 per cent, and the amount of land cultivated is 4,256,000 acres. The average value of land per acre is \$2.24, an increase in ten years of 100 per cent; the average per acre is \$15.31, and the percentage of return (net) compared with average value per acre is 75.6 per cent. The value of domestic animals is \$71,122,843, while cereals show a decrease of 10.5 per cent whereas the value

shows an increase of 68.3 per cent, and the amount of acres cultivated for cereal is 2,841,114. The percentage of farms operated by owners is 72.8 per cent, an increase in ten years of 4.6 per cent, and the percentage of farms operated by tenants is 26.5 per cent, a decrease in ten years of 4.2 per cent. The remaining farms operated by managers is 99.9 per cent, a decrease of 99.4 per cent. The percentage of farms mortgaged is 14 per cent, an increase of 1.3 per cent in ten years, while the average debt per farm shows a decrease of 22.2 per cent.

The average value per farm for agricultural implements is \$95, or \$2.8 per acre increase, and the average value per farm for live stock is \$497, or 78.2 per cent increase. The average expenditure per farm for labor is \$158, or totals \$13,354,194, an increase of 71.4 per cent. The average expenditure per farm for fertilizer is \$63.30, or totals \$3,251,900, an increase of 83.3 per cent.

One-third of all farmers purchase feed for farm, or total \$2,504,660. Three-fourths of farmers purchase fertilizers, and about one-fifth of labor cost is for rent and board. Now, let's summarize. Of the 25,767,689 acres of farm land in Virginia the number of acres cultivated and producing crops is 4,256,000, leaving uncultivated, 21,511,689 acres; allowing for pasture, 2,000,000 acres; there remains uncultivated, 19,511,689 acres, allowing for hills and swamps, 9,585,114 acres, we find that we have uncultivated acreage for farmers, 9,926,575 acres.

By dividing these acres into farms of eighty-acre units there would be in the State of Virginia 124,082 more farms than there are at the present time. There could thus be added to Virginia's population 620,410 people.

Ex-Secretary Wilson is quoted as saying that if a farmer had brought to per annum to the nation, and on this basis he is worth that amount to the State of Virginia, if not more. One hundred twenty-four thousand and eighty-two farmers added to the State would mean an increased wealth of \$186,123,000 per annum, and that amount is interest at 3 per cent on \$3,192,050,000. By assuming there are five persons to a family, or one-fifth of the total population, the number of families, this would mean an average wealth to each family of the State of Virginia of \$347. And all of this may be accomplished, without any particular individual effort, except a State-wide campaign to locate 124,082 on Virginia's unused acreage.

Colored Y. M. C. A. Meeting. A special meeting for men will be held this afternoon at 5:30 o'clock at the Colored Young Men's Christian Association, 1200 W. A. Mitchell will deliver a special address on "Holding

fast." Joseph Matthews will sing solos, accompanied by Richard S. Johnson.

CONFERENCE IS HELD WITH LAND ASSESSORS

Object Is to Do Away With Dissensions Over Valuations of Mineral-Bearing Properties.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ACTIVE

New Committees Are Appointed and Many Steps Taken With Object of Furnishing Growth and Bringing Business to Clifton Forge.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

CLIFTON FORGE, Va., May 8.—James A. Stone, of Bristol, Va., State assessor of mineral lands, held a conference here yesterday with the boards of review on assessments, the commissioners of the revenue, and the owners of property and their attorneys in the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit presided over by Judge George K. Anderson, which embraces this city and the counties of Alleghany, Bath, Botetourt and Craig. The object of the conference was to agree upon a rate of assessment and thus obviate the necessity of appealing to the court for an increase or decrease of any assessment placed upon property by the authorized officers. There seemed to be little dissension among those in attendance over the course to be pursued. Those attending the conference were: Major William A. Anderson, of Lexington; A. F. Withrow, of Bath County; J. E. Harman, of Fincastle; George W. Layman, W. M. Echols and K. G. Sublett, of New Castle; C. P. Barnett, William E. Allen, John T. Delaney and R. W. Crowder, of Covington; H. H. Byrd and J. R. Criser, of Warm Springs; W. R. Hepler, of Millboro, and S. C. Carrell and F. L. Hammett, of Low Moor.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOLDS MONTHLY MEETING

The monthly meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held in the City Hall on Thursday night, with a large and representative attendance of the business men of the community. Walter K. Smith, president of the organization, presided. On the recommendation of the committee on committees, made through its chairman, W. E. Trout, the following committees were appointed to serve during the coming year: Membership, E. A. Snead, W. M. Smith and John Donovan; legislative, F. W. King, J. C. Carpenter and W. G. Dingley; finance, W. F. Tinsley, W. W. Zimmerman and R. F. Murray; roads, A. C. Ford, J. H. Callahan and Frank L. Spinner; advertising, A. B. Davies, L. W. Crisp and H. H. Byrd; entertainment, B. F. Donovan, E. A. Snead, E. R. Massie, J. G. Fry, F. W. King and J. H. Drewry; new industries, W.

G. Mathews, R. V. Van Horn, D. E. Smith, C. P. Nair and W. E. Trout; transportation, Eugene Mathews, J. M. Kolner and F. H. Wheeler; booster, P. C. Pendleton, A. O. Suror, F. L. Simpson, George M. Farrar and H. E. Meeks.

A feature of the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was an address by J. Rush Cary, general superintendent of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, whose headquarters are located here, on the necessity of inaugurating a "buy-at-home" movement. Mr. Cary aroused considerable enthusiasm, and as the result of his remarks a committee will be appointed for the purpose of increasing the trade of the merchants and industries of the community here. A bond issue to improve the streets, a decrease in local taxes and many other matters of moment received consideration and were acted upon. The Chamber of Commerce promises to become an important factor in the development of Clifton Forge and this section of Virginia.

Charles H. Davis and Lynn Clark, of Covington, had a narrow escape from death on Thursday afternoon in this city, when the automobile in which they were riding went over a steep embankment in South Clifton. Both were considerably shaken up, and the automobile damaged almost beyond repair. Messrs. Davis and Clark were given medical attention, after which they were able to return to their home in Covington.

NEW CITY ATTORNEY ELECTED BY COUNCIL. At the meeting of the City Council John W. Bear was elected city attorney to succeed O. B. Harvey, who recently resigned. The Council is practically on record as favoring a bond issue to the amount of \$10,000 in addition to \$5,000 already set aside for the purpose of improving the streets. The

property owners are expected to increase this sum to \$100,000 in order to secure paved streets. The City Circuit Court was in session here this week with Judge George K. Anderson presiding, but there was little business before the court in view of the compromise of the suit of Mrs. J. W. Gaddy against the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway. Mrs. Gaddy entered suit to recover damages for the loss of a leg of one of her little children.

Judge George K. Anderson has announced the appointment of the boards of review in this city, Botetourt and Craig Counties. Those named are: Clifton Forge, P. A. McDaniel, R. V. Van Horn and W. C. Hamilton; Craig County, George W. Layman, G. W. Snodgrass and W. A. Givens; Botetourt County, C. M. Lunsford, T. E. McInnis and W. J. Booze.

Cyrus A. Matthews died in his home here the first of the week, following an illness with pneumonia. It was thought Mr. Matthews was convalescing when a sudden change in his condition took place, and he passed away suddenly. He was seventy-four years old and in the War Between the States was a Confederate soldier. He is survived by one daughter and three sons. The local camp of Confederate Veterans attended his funeral in a body.

Jitneys Take Out Hack Licenses

Just now our lines of Summer Furnishings are complete, and you will find it a decided advantage to inspect them before making your purchase.

In most cases the war has caused things to advance, but not here. You can buy Porch and Lawn Furniture right now from us cheaper than ever before.

We are showing the largest assorted stock we ever had, and among the useful as well as attractive lines you will find the Old Hickory, Reed, Rattan, Fibre and Maple Chairs, Rockers and Settees.

The above picture will give you a very good idea of the class that's to our showings. And when you know you can buy the entire outfit for \$50.00, is saying enough.

Rockers and Chairs to match from \$8 to \$15.00.

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Best Flour, 50c bag, or per barrel \$7.95

Fresh Country Eggs, guaranteed, per dozen 22c

Tarbel's Best Cream Cheese, lb., 20c

Gold Medal, very best Flour, 54c bag, or barrel \$8.60

Snowdrift Lard, all sizes 11c

Ceresota Best Flour, 56c bag; or, per barrel \$8.90

4 cans Sugar Corn for 25c

Best Water-Ground Meal, peck 28c, per bushel \$1.00

California Evaporated Peaches, lb., 8c

Snow Flake Patent Flour, 49c bag, or \$7.75 per barrel

3 bottles 5c Essence of Lemon, 10c

Good Grainy Lard, per lb., 10c

3 pkgs Monogram Oats for 25c

Regular 50c cans Golden Crown Syrup for 38c

Armour's Shield, Best Hams, lb., 16c

3 cans Campbell's Beans or Soup for 25c

Brookdale Asparagus, per can 18c

Smoked Country Jowls, per pound 12c

Breakfast Bacon, per lb., 19c

3 pkgs. Washington Crisp 25c

Large Juicy Lemons, per dozen 14c

Machine Thin Sliced Bacon, lb., 22c

Good Three-String Broom 18c

6 large Fat Mackerel for 25c

1-lb. package Macaroni or Spaghetti, 8c

1-lb. pkg. Bonton Coffee, per lb., 15c

Large Grape Fruit, each 5c

10c Karo or Golden Crown Syrup, per can 9c

Large cans Drinking Cider, 3 for 25c

Red Cross Milk, per can 12c

New Clipped Herings, doz., 12c

Canned Tuna Fish, value, two for 25c

Preserves, all flavors, per bottle 10c

Soda bottles Rye or Corn Whiskey, Gln or Apple Brandy, qt 50c

6 Piedmont Cigarettes for 25c; per box \$1.96

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If so we can give you a nice ALASKA that will give you from 20 to 30 years' perfect service, that has a 30-lb. ice capacity.

Do You Want a Refrigerator Around \$18?

We can furnish you with a 65-lb. (ice capacity) apartment home ALASKA, built very tall and only takes up 2 7-10 square feet of floor space. Will give 20 to 30 years' perfect service.

Do You Want a Large Refrigerator of 400 Pounds Ice Capacity?

For a club, boarding house or restaurant? If so, we can furnish you an ALASKA Refrigerator that will give 20 to 30 years' service for about \$60.00.

Do You Want a Refrigerator de Luxe?

For \$138 we can furnish you an ALASKA, made entirely inside and out of pure white opalite glass, nearly 1/2 inch thick, holding 125 pounds of ice, that will last forever.

Do You Want a Store Refrigerator to Show Butter and Delicatessen?

Something very handsome, and that acts as a beautiful showcase. We can furnish you out of stock a glass front, sliding shelf ALASKA that holds 600 pounds of ice for \$191.50. This is 5 1/2 feet wide.

We tell you that we've handled the ALASKA for the past 27 years, and that we know the ALASKA not only costs you less, but will give you longer service, cost less to run for ice and will keep food longer and better than any other Refrigerator made. We've sold over 5,000 in the city of Richmond, and show you over 70 different sizes to select from.

Don't experiment with your money. Buy an

ALASKA

DON'T FAIL TO SEE THE NEW JURGENS GAS RANGE (all with 18-inch ovens), and the Detroit Jewel Gas Ranges, \$11.50 to \$40.00, and the Jurgens' All-Steel Sanitary White Enamel Kitchen Cabinet.

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Write for our complete catalogue of Groceries, Hay, Poultry and Stock Food and Seeds. Money order must accompany all shipping orders.

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